



UTAH DAIRY COMMISSION FUNDING

NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRICULTURE, & ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
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ISSUE BRIEF

The Utah Dairy Commission receives over \$2.5 million per year from assessments on dairy producers (Fund 5475). This fund has been “off budget,” which means it is not included in the appropriations process (reporting, review, appropriations bills, etc.). In a [report](#) reviewing all “off-budget” funds, the Fiscal Analyst recommended the Legislature increase the oversight of the Dairy Commission by requiring an annual report to the Retirement and Independent Entities Appropriations Subcommittee, along with the other independent entities.

The 2013 report also addressed a concern that the number of board members listed on the commission’s website exceeded the number authorized in statute. The report recommended the commission either eliminate the extra board member from the website or request the Legislature change the statute and increase the number of board members.

The commission removed the extra board member just before the report was published in 2013. However, during our follow up this year, the commission, which refers to itself as “Dairy Council of Utah and Nevada,” had again listed an extra board member on their website (<http://www.dairycouncilutnv.com/about-us/>).

The Analyst reaffirms the recommendations about the Utah Dairy Commission in the 2013 report and recommends the Legislature consider the following options:

1. Increase the oversight of the Dairy Commission by:
 - a. Including in [UCA 4-22](#) a requirement for the Utah Dairy Commission to annually report to the Retirement and Independent Entities Appropriations Subcommittee, and
 - b. Making the Dairy Commission Fund (Fund 5475) on budget, so that it would annually be reviewed in the legislative appropriations review process, and will be included in an appropriations bill.
2. Or, consider striking the enabling clause of the Utah Dairy Commission ([4-22](#)), along with the requirement for the assessments ([4-22-7](#)).